REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1- 30 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over ALLAIN et al. Applicants respectfully traverse

Claim 1 requires determining a designated route that is associated with the selected application. Claim 18 requires determining a wireless network based on a port number of the application, or other criteria, such as an IP address and a protocol.

In contrast, ALLAIN et al. discuss determining networks based upon criteria, such as quality of service (see col. 7, lines (4 - 50) or cost and time of day (see col. 7, lines 61 - 63). Network selection is also described as being based on user response signals (see col. 8, lines 27 - 60). The reference does not teach or suggest, however, selecting a network/route based upon the application or its port number.

Associating routes with applications provides an administrator with a high level of control of data being routed. For example, an application could be assigned solely to a spread spectrum network. Thus, the email application will only be able to transmit data when within spread spectrum coverage. A more important application, such as computer aided dispatch (CAD), may be assigned to multiple networks. Thus, when in range of any of the assigned networks, the CAD program can send data. Simply monitoring QoS and selecting an available network based upon QoS does not take into account which application will use a particular network nor facilitate control of applications. Rather ALLAIN et al. select a

network without regard to any specific applications, providing an administrator with no control over how particular applications route data. Thus, ALLAIN et al. do not teach the claimed application/route(network) association.

Claims 11 and 17 recite a port routing table that specifies a wireless network based on a characteristic of the *received data*. The characteristic is defined as a port number, an IP address, or a protocol. Thus, the claims recite selecting based on data received from an application. In other words, the actual data is examined in order to make a decision. Although ALLAIN et al. disclose port numbers, the reference does not disclose port numbers that are a characteristic of the received data. Nor are ALLAIN et al.'s port numbers related to the received data. Moreover, ALLAIN et al. require a user to make a decision. See col. 8, lines 55+. ALLAIN et al. do not look at the received data in order to make a decision. Thus, network selection based upon one of the claimed characteristics of the received data is not taught or suggested by ALLAIN et al.

There is a fundamental distinction between ALLAIN et al. and the claimed invention. The claimed invention receives data from an application and forwards the data out over a network. In contrast, ALLAIN et al. describe a device that resides on a network. The device receives information from the network, and then re-routes the information over a different network.

Consequently, for all of the above reasons it is requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 1, 11, 17, and 18.
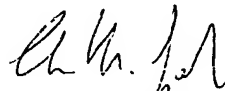
Dependent claims 2 - 10, 12 - 16, and 19 - 30 are also believed to recite further patentable subject matter of the invention and therefore are also believed allowable over the prior art. As such, allowance of the dependent claims is deemed proper for at least the same reasons noted for the independent claims, in addition to reasons related to their own recitations. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and an indication of the allowability of all of the claims in the present application.

In the present Reply, paragraph [0128] has been deleted because it merely repeats a portion of paragraph [0127].

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

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Respectfully submitted,
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